

Government Operations Committee  
April 11, 2006

Minutes

Councilor Attendance: Allen, Farrington, Gratwick  
Staff Attendance: Barrett, Farrar, Hamer, Enman, Cammack  
Others: Tina Murdy

1. Request to Sell/Serve Beer at Locations throughout Bangor Municipal Golf Course.

Enman explained that Jeff and Tina Murdy, the operators of the food and beverage concession at Bangor Muni, have requested permission to sell beer at locations on the golf course. Committee approval was granted for the 2005 season on a one year trial basis but the Murdy's chose not to proceed. They have, however, decided that they would like to proceed for the 2006 season, and are renewing their request. Staff suggested a one-year trial period. In response to Farrington, Enman said that during the tournament times it is a plus to have beverage sales. It is not an open bar setting, however, anytime alcohol is served there can be problems. The beverages will be available during tournaments and on weekends. Gratwick clarified that the bar is available to players only, not spectators. Responding to Gratwick's question about the laws in place that would jeopardize a liquor license, Murdy said it was a State Law that was changed in January 2005. The license would have been revoked if a violation occurred on the Course. The wording has now been changed to a "fine" instead of revocation. Not only the Murdy's license be revoked but the City's as well. City Solicitor Heitmann provided the Committee a memo outlining the conditions the Murdy's are proposing. Hamer said if it was a violation of condition, the Golf Course would receive a fine. If an individual causes a commotion, they could be charged by the police department with a civil violation with a fine to the City itself. Enman said that most courses sell alcohol. Responding to Allen, Enman said there are rangers around the course during the day. A motion was made and seconded to approve staff's recommendation.

2. Council Ordinance 06-146, Adopting New Article XVII of Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances – Emergency Management Agency.

Cammack explained that in order to remain eligible for certain Federal Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness grants, the City must adopt an Emergency Management Agency Ordinance in compliance with state law and incorporating the National Emergency Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). This Ordinance establishes the Agency, which is composed of existing City employees, volunteers and other organizations

which might assist in a disaster, permits the City Manager to designate an Emergency Management Director, authorizes the establishment of an Emergency Operations Plan and the necessary rules and regulations to put it into effect. The Maine Emergency Management Agency provided the model ordinance which has been adjusted to conform to Bangor's Charter and organizational structure. Gratwick asked if the City has an EMS Director. It is the Fire Chief. Once adopted, Barrett said he would suggest a Council Order be adopted that would confirm the Fire Chief's appointment as Director of Emergency Management. Gratwick asked about quarantine procedures. He indicated it would be a major step to quarantine an entire city and thought it should be described in more detail within the plan. Barrett said the state law and city charter is explicit in this area and that the proposed plan sets out the procedure by which it would have to be completed. The Emergency Operations Plan is to set up a procedure to allow decisions to be made quickly during an emergency. Gratwick expressed concern that the Plan does not address a nuclear disaster. Barrett said it would be included in 'other or natural man made causes.' He said that the definition was used and lifted directly out of state law. Responding to Gratwick, Barrett said Gratwick's suggestion could be added. Farrington talked of nuclear incidents being handled by the military. Barrett said that in the event of such an event the City's first responder would deal with the immediate realities of the situation and would quickly call upon the State that does have access to the Civil Support Team. Cammack said that Geiger counters will be available. Allen asked if the City is able to handle the bird flu. Barrett said that the City's Health and Welfare Director has been working closely with the State Department of Health and other providers in formulating a state response plan and a local response plan to that need. Cammack said the City has been working with the Regional Resource Center and EMMC. The lead agency is the State Department of Health and Human Services. It is a group that regularly meets for vaccines, shelters, hospital capacity, and surge capacity in the time of an event. The media would be used to inform citizenry and PSA's would be in place. The media would be used as well. Barrett said an Emergency Management System sets up a framework to try to respond to almost any situation. It provides a structure with identified responsibilities. The new police department building will have an emergency operations center. Cammack said there is a county wide mutual aid agreement in place and also working at the state level for a statewide mutual aid agreement. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Council Ordinance 06-146. Gratwick said he supports the concept of the plan. He looks at it as an overall sketch. He again spoke of a nuclear threat. He is not satisfied with Bangor's dependence on the State for its nuclear safeguard. He asked for an amendment under Section 28.73 Definitions D to include 'nuclear catastrophe.' Farrington said he had no problem with Gratwick's proposed amendment. The Ordinance was recommended to the Council as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.